

(2) Extend the review period until there has been substantial compliance; or

(3) Grant other equitable relief that under the circumstances seems necessary or appropriate.

(c) Where there has been a failure to substantially comply, section 6(i)(2) of the Act provides that the court shall extend the review period until there has been substantial compliance.

#### **§ 535.608 Confidentiality of submitted material.**

(a) Except for an agreement filed under section 5 of the Act, all information submitted to the Commission by the filing party will be exempt from disclosure under 5 U.S.C. 552. Included in this disclosure exemption is information provided in the Information Form, voluntary submission of additional information, reasons for non-compliance, and replies to requests for additional information.

(b) Information that is confidential pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section may be disclosed, however, to the extent:

(1) It is relevant to an administrative or judicial action or proceeding; or

(2) It is disclosed to either body of Congress or to a duly authorized committee or subcommittee of Congress.

(c) Parties may voluntarily disclose or make information publicly available. If parties elect to disclose information they shall promptly inform the Commission.

#### **§ 535.609 Negotiations.**

At any time after the filing of an agreement and prior to the conclusion of judicial injunctive proceedings, the filing party or an authorized representative may submit additional factual or legal support for an agreement or may propose modifications of an agreement. Such negotiations between Commission personnel and filing parties may continue during the pendency of injunctive proceedings. Shippers, other government departments or agencies, and other third parties may not participate in these negotiations.

### **Subpart G—Reporting Requirements**

#### **§ 535.701 General requirements.**

(a) Parties to agreements identified in § 535.702(a) shall submit quarterly Monitoring Reports on an ongoing basis for as long as the agreement remains in effect, containing information and data on the agreement and the parties' authority under the agreement.

(b) Parties to agreements identified in § 535.704 are required to submit minutes of their meetings for as long as their agreements remain in effect.

(c) If a joint service is a party to an agreement that is subject to the requirements of this subpart, the joint service shall be treated as one member of that agreement for purposes of that agreement's Monitoring Reports.

(d) Monitoring Reports and minutes required to be filed by this subpart should be submitted to: Director, Bureau of Trade Analysis, Federal Maritime Commission, Washington, DC 20573-0001. A copy of the Monitoring Report form in Microsoft Word and Excel format may be downloaded from the Commission's home page at <http://www.fmc.gov>, or a paper copy may be obtained from the Bureau of Trade Analysis. In lieu of submitting paper copies, parties may complete and submit their Monitoring Reports in the Commission's prescribed electronic format, either on diskette or CD-ROM.

(e)(1) The regulations in this paragraph (e) are stayed until further notice.

(2) Reports and minutes required to be filed by this subpart may be filed by direct electronic transmission in lieu of hard copy. Detailed information on electronic transmission is available from the Commission's Bureau of Trade Analysis. Certification and signature requirements of this subpart can be met on electronic transmissions through use of a pre-assigned Personal Identification Number (PIN) obtained from the Commission. PINs can be obtained by submission by an official of the filing party of a statement to the Commission agreeing that inclusion of the PIN in the transmission constitutes the signature of the official. Only one PIN will be issued for each agreement. Where a filing party has

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more than one official authorized to file minutes or reports, each additional official must submit such a statement countersigned by the principal official of the filing party. Each filing official will be issued a unique password. A PIN or designation of authorized filing officials may be canceled or changed at any time upon the written request of the principal official of the filing party. Direct electronic transmission filings may be made at any time except between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. Eastern time on Commission business days.

(f) *Time for filing.* Except as otherwise instructed, Monitoring Reports shall be filed within 75 days of the end of each calendar quarter. Minutes of meetings shall be filed within 21 days after the meeting. Other documents shall be filed within 15 days of the receipt of a request for documents.

(g) A complete response in accordance with the instructions on the Monitoring Report shall be supplied to each item. If a party to an agreement is unable to supply a complete response, that party shall provide either estimated data (with an explanation of why precise data are not available) or a detailed statement of reasons for non-compliance and the efforts made to obtain the required information.

(h) A Monitoring Report for a particular agreement may be supplemented with any other relevant information or documentary material.

(i) *Confidentiality.* (1) The Monitoring Reports, minutes, and any other additional information submitted by a particular agreement will be exempt from disclosure under 5 U.S.C. 552, except to the extent:

(i) It is relevant to an administrative or judicial action or proceeding; or

(ii) It is disclosed to either body of Congress or to a duly authorized committee or subcommittee of Congress.

(2) Parties may voluntarily disclose or make Monitoring Reports, minutes or any other additional information publicly available. The Commission must be promptly informed of any such voluntary disclosure.

(j) Monitoring Report or alternative periodic reporting requirements in this subpart shall not be construed to authorize the exchange or use by or

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among agreement members of information required to be submitted.

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 69 FR 64414, Nov. 4, 2004, paragraph (e) of § 535.701 was stayed indefinitely.

### § 535.702 Agreements subject to Monitoring Report and alternative periodic reporting requirements.

(a) Agreements subject to the Monitoring Report requirements of this subpart are:

(1) An agreement that contains the authority to discuss or agree on capacity rationalization; or

(2) Where the parties to an agreement hold a combined market share, based on cargo volume, of 35 percent or more in the entire U.S. inbound or outbound geographic scope of the agreement and the agreement contains any of the following authorities:

(i) The discussion of, or agreement upon, whether on a binding basis under a common tariff or a non-binding basis, any kind of rate or charge;

(ii) The establishment of a joint service;

(iii) The pooling or division of cargo traffic, earnings, or revenues and/or losses; or

(iv) The discussion of, or agreement on, any service contract matter.

(b) The determination of an agreement's reporting obligation under § 535.702(a)(2) in the first instance shall be based on the market share data reported on the agreement's Information Form pursuant to § 535.503. Thereafter, at the beginning of each calendar year, the Bureau of Trade Analysis will notify the agreement parties of any changes in its reporting requirements based on market share data reported on the agreement's quarterly Monitoring Report for the previous second quarter (April-June).

(c) The Commission may require, as necessary, that the parties to an agreement with market share below the 35 percent threshold, as identified and defined in § 535.702(a)(2), submit Monitoring Reports pursuant to § 535.703.

(d) In addition to or instead of the Monitoring Report in § 535.703, the Commission may prescribe, as necessary, alternative periodic reporting requirements for parties to any agreement identified in § 535.201.